

Docket No.: SON-2780
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Hiroki Sato, et al.

Application No.: 10/603,693

Art Unit: 2614

Filed: June 26, 2003

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: SOLID-STATE IMAGE PICKUP DEVICE AND
PIXEL DEFECT TESTING METHOD
THEREOF

Conf. # 2889

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Arlington, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

By this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS), Applicants hereby bring to the attention of the Examiner documents identified on an accompanying form PTO-1449. Applicants respectfully submit that this IDS is filed in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 37 CFR 1.98. In particular, each foreign patent or published foreign application is identified by the country or patent office that issued the patent or published the application, an appropriate document number, and the publication date indicated on the patent or published application.

This will certify that each document accompanying this IDS was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. Specifically, these documents were identified in a European Search Report (ESR) dated October 10, 2003. A copy of the ESR with its Annex is provided for

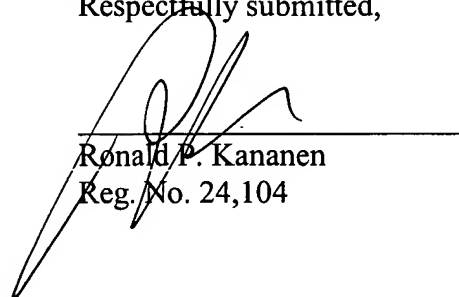
the convenience of the Examiner and to show the purported relevance of the foreign language documents.

The filing of this IDS is not a representation that a search has been made, and is not an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability of the above-identified application. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that this IDS is filed before the first Office Action on the merits.

Based on the foregoing discussion, Applicants submit that this IDS complies with the requirements set forth in 37 CFR 1.97 and 37 CFR 1.98. As a result, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider these documents, and provide a clear record of their consideration by initialing the appropriate boxes provided on form PTO-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 11, 2003



Ronald P. Kananen
Reg. No. 24,104

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER, PLLC
Lion Building
1233 20th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone No.: (202) 955-3750
Facsimile No.: (202) 955-3751
Customer No. 23353

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Application Number	10/603,693	
			Filing Date	June 26, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	Hiroki Sato	
			Art Unit	2614	
			Examiner Name	N/A	
			Attorney Docket Number	SON-2780	
Sheet	1	of	1		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	6,307,393 B1	10/23/01	Shimura	
	AB				
	AC				
	AD				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	06315112	8/11/94	Sony Corp.		✓

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ²
	CA	EPO Search Report 10/10/03			x

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--